

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

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TREASURY:M GADBAW

EUR/NE:D GOODMAN (SUBS)

E:E JOHNSTON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

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TAGS:ETRD, SW

SUBJECT: TRIGGER PRICE MECHANISM--REPLIES TO NORDENFALK'S
QUESTIONS

REF: STATE A-17

1. AT THE XCSS BUREAU MEETING IN PARIS FEBRUARY 24, UNDER
SECRETARY COOPER PROMISED SWEDISH COMMERCE UNDER SECRETARY
NORDENFALK ANSWERS TO TWO QUESTIONS REGARDING THE U.S.
TRIGGER PRICE MECHANISM (TPM) FOR STEEL IMPORTS. PLEASE
PASS FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO NORDENFALK ASAP AND EXPRESS
UNDER SECRETARY COOPER'S HOPE THAT HE FINDS IT HELPFUL.

2. Q. IS STAINLESS STEEL IN OR OUT OF THE TPM?

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A. AT LEAST INITIALLY, THE TRIGGER PRICE MECHANISM WILL
NOT BE APPLIED TO STAINLESS STEEL. NEVERTHELESS, THE
SPECIAL SUMMARY STEEL INVOICE (SSSI) IS REQUIRED FOR ALL
SHIPMENTS OF BASIC STEEL MILL PRODUCTS HAVING AN AGGREGATE
PURCHASE PRICE OVER DOLS. 2500. THUS, ANY STAINLESS STEEL
PRODUCT WHICH IS A STEEL MILL PRODUCT AS DEFINED IN THE

U.S. (SEE REFAIR) MUST BE ACCCOMPANIED BY AN SSSI BUT WILL NOT BE MONITORED AS LONG AS IT IS SUBJECT TO IMPORT QUOTAS.

3. Q. CAN THE MARCH 13 DEADLINE BE EXTENDED ONE OR TWO MONTHS FOR U.S. SUBSIDIES TO FILE THE SSSI ON BEHALF OF THEIR FOREIGN PARENT SUPPLIER?

A. TWO SEPARATE QUESTIONS ARE INVOLVED. THE USG SEES NO REASON TO EXTEND THE PERIOD IN WHICH THE SSSI MAY BE FILED, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE URGENT NEED TO BEGIN MONITORING ON A CURRENT BASIS. THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT HAS GIVEN SHIPPERS UNTIL MARCH 13, 1978 TO FILE AN SSSI FOR ANY SHIPMENT OF STEEL MILL PRODUCTS ENTERING THE U.S. DURING THE PERIOD FEBRUARY 21, 1978 TO MARCH 13, 1978. THIS INTERIM MEASURE WAS TAKEN SOLELY TO PERMIT AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF PRINTED SSSI FORMS OR FACSIMILES TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO FOREIGN SHIPPERS. FACSIMILES ARE NOW READILY AVAILABLE, AND PRINTED FORMS WILL BE DELIVERED TO U.S. DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS AS WELL AS TO FOREIGN EMBASSIES IN WASHINGTON WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

U.S. SUBSIDIARIES OF FOREIGN STEEL SHIPPERS, HOWEVER, MAY QUALIFY UNDER U.S. CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AS AGENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMPLETING THE SSSI. IF SO, THEY MAY CONTINUE TO COMPLETE THE SSSI, WHICH REQUIRES ON LINE 12(C) THE SIGNATURE OF THE SELLER/SHIPPER OR HIS AGENT. VANCE UNCLASSIFIED

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